

# The Salt Lake Tribune

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Tuesday, December 9, 1913.

## HOUSTON'S PESSIMISM.

Secretary Houston continues to be our most conspicuous public pessimist. In spite of the fact that on his own showing all the crops except the corn crop are as big as ever or bigger, the Secretary of Agriculture looks gloomily upon the future of the farmer. The trend cityward cannot be stopped, he thinks, until rural life can be made fully efficient, profitable, healthy, pleasurable, and attractive, and before a larger disposition to remain on the farm develops. If the farmers cannot weep for themselves they can find a perpetual source of tears in Secretary Houston. Every few weeks his lamentations may be heard sighing across America's barren fields.

In every line of human endeavor there is a desire for greater efficiency, profits, health and pleasure. The farmers are not alone in desiring that the world shall take a step forward in these respects.

Fortunately the report of Secretary Houston contains facts that do not accord with the melancholy spirit of his editorial comment. The crop estimates indicate that the city trend of population has not so seriously interfered with production on the farms but that we can produce larger crops each year. The optimist is apt to think that this is a proof that the trend toward the cities is not as great as many have imagined. The wheat production is estimated at 753,000,000 bushels, the largest ever recorded in this country. There were barlees, rye and corn, and we have bountiful crops of all these cereals except corn, which will make the poorest showing in twenty years.

Even the corn crop does not seem to discourage the farmers. Almost every day the newspapers in various parts of the country are bragging about the price which this year's corn crop will bring. It is freely predicted that the farmers will make more out of their corn as a result of the high prices than ever before. Moreover, the farmers probably will get as much or nearly as much for their other crops as they have in any recent years, and the grand total of revenue for farmers may be higher than at any time in the history of the nation. One would think, therefore, that Secretary Houston, having the interest of the farmer at heart, would be in a most cheerful state of mind. When another spell of gloom comes over him, we suggest that he go out among the farmers and talk with them about the money they are receiving for their various crops. We are confident that he will find the farmer of 1913 a cheery optimist.

The Secretary rightly suggests that one of the most important needs of the farmer is the improvement and the extension of roads. We doubt, however, whether his plan to secure more good roads will meet with the approval of the sparsely settled districts. The Secretary believes that the Federal Government should apportion its money for good roads on the basis of total population, farm population, area, taxable valuation and mileage. If by this is meant that the areas with the greatest population should be aided by the Federal Government in preference to those areas which have small population, it would seem as if the Government would be supplying the greater amount of money for districts where good roads already are numerous and denying financial assistance where good roads are most needed.

## A DUCHESS EXALTED.

The tuft-hunting contingent in this land of the free and home of the brave will no doubt swell with pride when informed that the Duchess of Roxburgh, an "American duchess," she that was May Goelet of New York, will shortly be offered the position of Mistress of the robes by Queen Mary, consort of King George, at whose court the nouveau riche of the United States desire to thrive.

Worship of the aristocracy is born and bred in the beef-eating Briton, but with the American it is a taste or habit easily acquired by the young ladies whose sires or grandfathers gathered great wealth while the gathering was good and the rank and file were in blissful ignorance of the modus operandi.

Some sixty odd years ago Thackeray turned the court of St. James inside out in a series of articles in Punch which have since been given to the world in the "Book on Snobs," and which are hereby recommended as excellent reading to all those who are tempted to fawn upon and truckle to those whom they consider a little higher up in the social scale.

"My private friends are aware," says the intemperate satirist, "that I have an aunt who is a duchess, and, as such, Lady of the Powder Closet; and that my cousin, Lord Peter, is Powder-Stick in Waiting and Groom of the Dust Pan." Mr. Thackeray then goes on to say that owing to a change in the cabinet he hears that "Lionel Rampant succeeds to my cousin Peter's Powder-Stick; Toffey is next to certain of the Dust Pan; whilst the Powder Closet has been positively promised to Lady Guile." He then proceeds to express his amazement at the following:

What the deuce can her ladyship want with such a place? Is a question which suggests itself to my simple mind. If I had 30,000 a year, if I had gouty feet (though this is a profound secret), and an amiable, epileptic husband, at home, I should have a choice of town and country houses, parks, castles, villas, books, cooks, carriages, and other enjoyments and amusements, would I become a sort of a kind of a what-dye-call-it-on-an-upper-servant, in fact—a personage ever so illustrious and beloved? Would I forsake my natural rest, my home and society, my husband, family, and independence, to take charge of any powder puff in any establishment; to speak under my breath, to stand up for hours before any young prince, however exalted? Would I consent to ride backwards in a carriage when the delicacy of my constitution rendered that mode of transit peculiarly odious to me, because there was a "scutcheon, surmounted by an imperial crown, on the cushions" No. 1? For, say what you will, there is always something ludicrous and mean in the character of a fop.

The above was written before the American invasion of glorified flunkiness. One shudders to think what the master satirist would say of the women from this side of the Atlantic, who have traded the dollars of their dads for titles and are overcome with joy upon being presented at court and simply delirious over the prospect of being appointed Lady in Waiting, or Lady of the Powder Closet, or to some other mental position at court.

Is it worth the money? That expatriated snob, William Waldorf Astor, would doubtless answer in the affirmative; but does the average American citizen honestly believe that happiness can be attained by becoming a sort of upper servant in a royal establishment? We trow not. Out of ninety or one hundred millions of us, only a few, comparatively speaking, aspire to the Powder Closet or Dust Pan, and these are welcome to the shame and mortification as well as the glitter and gold lace.

"King Canute is dead and gone; Parasites exist away."

## THE FIGHT OVER OIL.

How important the question of oil is in connection with affairs in Mexico and in Central America is slowly coming to light. The indications are that it will become a question of international dignity. At first it seemed to be merely a contest between private companies, the Standard Oil of America and the Pearsons of England, but now that the great navies of the world are building ships that call for hundreds of tons of oil each day, the problem of an oil supply for the chief naval nations is destined to grow acute.

The recent announcement that the Pearsons had retired from the Colombia fields came in the nature of a surprise. This English syndicate had asked the Colombian government to grant the company the right to exploit petroleum and carry on all works necessary for producing it in an area of 10,000 square kilometers. "In any part of the national property," inasmuch as the Pearsons have a contract to supply the English navy with oil, it would appear that England is bound by her most vital self-interest, that of maintaining her naval supremacy, to support the Pearsons in their oil operations. Lord Cowdray announced to the world that the Pearsons have withdrawn from the Colombia field owing to the proclaimed hostility of the United States Government to the granting of concessions by Latin-American countries to foreign interests, and will not insist on securing from Colombia the gigantic oil concession which would amount practically to a monopoly of the oil fields of that nation. It is not unlikely that the Pearsons took this action as the result of intimations from the British government, which is desirous of working in harmony with the United States Government in Mexico and in Central and South America. Nevertheless, the time is approaching when the demand for oil is apt to place Germany and France, if not England, in opposition to an American policy which will debar the European countries from obtaining in the western hemisphere an adequate oil supply for their warships.

Secretary Daniels, in his recent report, took occasion to suggest that the United States Government should secure its own oil fields in order to supply the navy with fuel. Fortunately the Government, at least for the present, does not need to go beyond the confines of the United States for oil. A plentiful supply can be developed on government property in California, and the Louisiana and Texas oil fields promise an almost unlimited supply for many years to come. Experts declare that the oil belt found in Louisiana and Texas extends down the east coast through Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama into Colombia. The abundance of oil in

the territory immediately contiguous to the Panama Canal is one of the elements which assure the instant success of that waterway. Panama will become an oil supply station for the merchant ships of all nations.

In view of the immense oil deposits in the regions bordering on the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea, competition for the oil probably will wax keen, but the extent of this competition will be determined largely by the amount of the supply. The fact that the great nations are adopting oil as a fuel is due to two reasons: First, that the sailing distance of the ships can be vastly increased, and, secondly, because oil is more economical than coal. The conflict of international interests will not come until the experts foresee the scarcity of oil as a result of the increased use by the navies of the world; but even at this time the foreign nations realize the necessity of acquiring adequate oil supplies, and Secretary Daniels understands that the United States must not delay too long if it expects to obtain its fuel as cheaply as the European nations plan to obtain their fuel.

## HETCH HETCHY VICTORY.

The people of San Francisco are to be congratulated upon the passage of the Hetch Hetchy bill by the Senate. It will become a law as soon as it is signed by the President, and San Francisco will then be able to avail itself of the best water supply it can obtain. The success of the bill was threatened by the agitation of impractical idealists who placed esthetic sentiment above human necessity. From the ranks of such sentimentalists the ultra-cautious conservationists of this country obtain many recruits, and as a result the development of our natural resources is sensibly retarded.

Poetry, sentiment, and a love of the beautiful have their place in human affairs, but when they are given such exaggerated importance that they are permitted to interfere with the material welfare of millions of human beings they become a deplorable superstition.

A St. Louis doctor, called to attend a wife murderer and attempted suicide, refused, saying he deserved to die. This is the first doctor who has admitted that he is an executioner.

General Pancho Villa heard that the federals were on all sides of him. Investigation showed they were fleeing in all directions.

President Wilson has transferred his army of observation from Mexico to Santo Domingo.

Roosevelt killed the Monroe doctrine in Argentina and revived it in Chile.

President Wilson neatly dodged the suffragists, in spite of his cold feet.

Early Christmas shopping in the drug stores is good for the complexion.

Mining and murder are the chief industries in Bingham just now.

Lopez seems to have solved the problem of how to live cheaply.

Huerta appears to be luring the rebels into Mexico City.

## Humidifying Air in Mines

The Colorado Fuel & Iron company employs a rather novel method for humidifying mine air. A radiator is placed on both sides of the heading through which the entering air passes. The waste steam from the radiator is conducted to a perforated pipe, to which is attached a curtain of burlap or brattice cloth. The purpose of the burlap is to bring the condensed steam in contact with the air current. As the air passes over the radiator it is heated and its capacity to pick up moisture is greatly increased. It then strikes the saturated curtains and absorbs the moisture.—Coal Age.

## SHAMPOO YOURSELF



## With CUTICURA SOAP

Tonight rub your scalp lightly with Cuticura Ointment. In the morning shampoo with Cuticura Soap. These emollients do much for dry, thin and falling hair, dandruff and itching scalps, and do it speedily, agreeably and economically.

Cuticura Soap and Ointment sold throughout the world. Liberal sample of each mailed free, with 32-p. book, Address "Cuticura," Dept. 7C, Boston. Beware of cheap imitations. Cuticura Soap will rid it best for skin and scalp.

# Keith O'Brien Co.

## A Piano for Christmas

### --The Best Gift of All

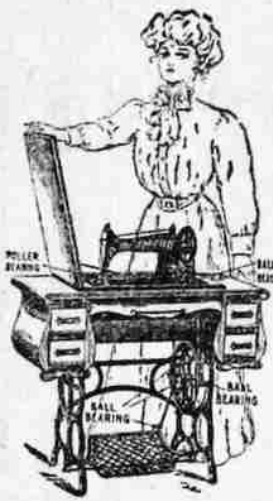
1913	DECEMBER	1913
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
9	10	11
12	13	14
15	16	17
18	19	20
21	22	23
24	25	26

Only 14 Shopping Days Left

## Bid Mother a "Merry Christmas" With a New Sewing Machine

Buy a "Triumph"—One of the Seven Best Machines Made

A \$50.00 Machine for \$25.00 Down, \$1.00 Per Week



For a useful, practical gift, the Sewing Machine is ideal, especially if the sewing has been done by hand. Can you imagine the surprise and delight of the good mother to be the recipient of a fine machine on Christmas morning? The good such a presentation will do her can not be measured.

The "Triumph" Machine is one of the seven best machines made. It is modern in every respect and is made to give years of service and satisfaction.

THE TRIUMPH SEWING MACHINE IS GUARANTEED FOR TEN LONG YEARS.

IF ANYTHING BREAKS—IF ANYTHING IS WRONG—IF ANYTHING—

—We Fix It.

# The Christmas Crowds Have Started

## REX THEATER

Today and Wednesday.  
"A SON'S DEVOTION." Boy goes to jail to protect profigate father.  
"JAKE AND MIKE GO FISHING." Joker comedy. Man carrying artificial limb is badly pursued.  
"THE CRACKSMAN'S REFORM." Powers drama. Man enriched by child labor is forced to increase wages. Featuring Wallace Reid.  
"HILDA OF THE MOUNTAINS." Nestor drama. Father seeks to disgrace son to prevent his marriage. Continuous 1 to 11 p. m.

## AMERICAN

TODAY AND TOMORROW.  
First Series of VICTOR HUGO'S Literary Masterpiece, "LES MISERABLES" IN FIVE REELS. Completing the books of "Jean Valjean" and "Fantine." A \$100,000 Production. AMERICAN CONCERT ORCHESTRA Professor J. J. McClellan, Conductor. Continuous Performances.

## ROYAL Baking Powder

Absolutely Pure

# Salt Lake Theater

## Wednesday and Thursday Night

DECEMBER 10 AND 11.

## Rex Beach Popular Comedy

"GOING SOME"

Elks Professional and Semi-Professional Cast. Under direction of E. R. Stanley, New York. COME AND LAUGH. ALL FOR CHARITY.

## A CHRISTMAS SUGGESTION FROM YOUR BANKER

There are few gifts more appropriate than a savings account—Have the bank-book made out to whomsoever you wish to remember and we will wrap it with a home-sown package in an attractive Xmas package.



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Other things being equal, we believe in handling home products. Our best butter is made at HOME in the various LOCAL TOWNS by the BEST BUTTER MAKERS.

If you do not use MEADOW VIEW QUALITY BUTTER try it, and you will use it thereafter.

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## THE SALT LAKE THEATER

TONIGHT—LAST TIME TOM ARNOLD

In the Gorgeous Musical Spectacle "The Prince of Tonight"

By Adams, Hough & Howard. Overwhelming with Song, Hits and Stunts.

Prices 25c to \$1.50. Fri. and Sat. Mat. 10c. "Believe Me."

Prices 25c to \$1.00. Mat. 25c and 50c.

## UPPER

WEEK OF SUNDAY, DEC. 7. Willard Mack-Marjorie Rameau and all the favorites in the cast, present that brilliant comedy

"BECAUSE SHE LOVED HIM."

Prices—25c, 50c, 75c. Matinee Thursday and Saturday, 50c, 25c, 10c. Next: "Barriers Burned Away."

## Orpheum

"DANCE REVERIES"

Revolving Coghlan Mack and Orth Scott and Keane 4-Artist and VIRGINIA RANKIN Fred and Albert.

Exclusive Orpheum Photodrama Orpheum Concert Orchestra. Evening performances, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00. Box seats, \$1. Matinee daily, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30. Night performances, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30. Matinee daily, 1:15.

Home of S. & C. Superior Vaudeville

## Empire

SULLIVAN, CONSIDINE Greater Advanced Vaudeville. ANDREW TOMBS

Today 2:30 7:30 9:15 "Cupid's Syndicate" 10-Pretty Girls—10. Gruet and Gruet, Clara Oliver, O'Brien and Snyder and Halls. A fun feature, "Othello O' dome." Pictorial review of Empire orchestra. 30c. Matinee daily, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30. Evening 8:00, 8:30, 9:00. Prices 10c to \$1.00. Box Seats 10c.

## PANTAGES

Unequaled Vaudeville ON BROADWAY LAST TIME TODAY. WILL ARMSTRONG & CO. GENE AND ARTHUR. THE LOVES. THE LELAND BROS. THE TERRY TROUPE. LOPEZ PICTURES.

Taken during hunt for desperado. Three performances daily, 7:30, 9:15. Prices 10c, 25c, 50c. Matinee, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30.